



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

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NEWS RELEASE

**City Seeks Vendor Proposals to Activate Waterfront Gazebo on
Commercial Street**

PORTLAND, Maine – The City of Portland seeks proposals for a food service, street artist, or retail service to activate the enclosed gazebo located on Commercial Street between Casco Bay Lines and Ocean Gateway, adjacent to the Eastern Trail bike and pedestrian path. The City's goal is to lease the space to an appropriate retail, or food and beverage provider that can provide services to the community for as many days a week, for as many hours a day, and for as many days a year as is feasible for an operator.

Expressions of interest must be submitted to Jen DeRice, 212 Canco Road, Portland, Maine 04103 or via email at jderice@portlandmaine.gov by March 1, 2024 no later than 2:00 PM.

Once operated as an ice cream stand, the gazebo has been vacant for the past few years. The City would like to reinvigorate the space in order to provide a premier location to a local artist, street goods vendor, business owner, or food service provider to sell merchandise, food, or goods at this location. Because of the limited size of the gazebo as well as the lack of water hookup, food service would be limited. Off-site food prep would be required. The City is in support of creative ideas to activate this business opportunity and it welcomes ideas.

The building is an octagonal shaped gazebo with approximately 77 square feet of gross building area and has access to power. The building is available by appointment for inspection by interested operators. The City will make the necessary cosmetic and structural improvements to the Gazebo before the tenant begins the season.

The Gazebo is located on a popular stretch of City-owned property where cruise ship passengers, locals, and visitors alike pass by on their way to area restaurants, shops, and recreational trails.

The City will allow each interested party the opportunity to offer the amount they are willing to pay for use of the gazebo. Annual rent will be recommended at a minimum of \$1,000 per month.

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